



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 3738**

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002-04000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Joseph C. Cauthen

Application No.: 10/085,040

Filed: March 1, 2002

For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC
ANNULUS STENT

) Group Art Unit: 3738

) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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10/26/04*

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 2004, the period for response having been extended to October 29, 2004 by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.